LXXIV. *An Account of a Specimen of the Labour of a Kind of Bees, which lay up their Young in Caſes of Leaves, which they bury in rotten Wood: In a Letter to* Daniel Wray, *Eſq*; *F. R. S. from Sir* Francis Eyles Styles, *Bart. F. R. S.*

SIR, Batterſea, June 11, 1760.

Read June 12, 1760. I Send you by the bearer a ſpecimen of of the labour of a kind of bees, who lay up their young in caſes of leaves, which they bury in rotten wood. I make no doubt but they are the ſame, which are deſcribed in the Tranſactions of the Royal Society, by Sir Edmond King, Mr. Francis Willoughby, and Dr. Liſter. See Lowthorp's abridgment, vol. ii. p. 772, *&c. ſeq.*

Monſ. Reaumur, in his Hiſtory of Inſects, tom. vi. p. 39. deſcribes a kind of bees, which he calls *percebois* (wood-borers). But theſe, he tells us, form no caſes for their young, but lay them in the holes they make in the wood, without other covering, except artificial floors, which they make of the ſame wood, to divide the length of the holes into ſeparate lodgements, each of which contains a ſingle bee. In p. 97. of the ſame volume, he deſcribes another kind of bees, which he calls *coupefeuilles* (leaf-cutters); and the deſcription, which he gives of their work, ſeems to anſwer to the ſpecimen I ſend you. But he tells us, that all the ſpecimens he had ever found, or been able to collect, of their labours, were taken out of

of the ground; and ſeems unwilling to rely on what he met with in Ray, concerning the depoſiting theſe caſes of leaves in rotten willows. Monſ. Reaumur's words are as follows.

" Entre les coupeuſes, et même entre les coupeuſes " de feuilles de Roſier, il y en a, qui ſçavent placer " leurs étuis dans des lieux, où ils peuvent ſe con- " ſerver ſains plus longtemps, ſi, comme Ray le rap- " porte, mais ce qu'il a negligé de dire qu'il avoit " vû, les ètuis de feuilles, qu'il a décrits, avoient été " réellement tirés de trous percés dans du Bois de " Saule pourri. Pour moi je n'en ai encore vû " qu'en terre, et ceux qui me ſont venus de divers " endroits, ont tous été tirés de terre."

As Monſ. Reaumur queſtions the truth of the account he met with, it may, perhaps, be agreeable to the Royal Society, to have a ſight of the work in queſtion; and, if you think ſo, I ſhall be obliged to you, if you will take the trouble of ſhewing it to them, at their next meeting. I ſhould have told you, that the ſpecimen was found in ſome park pales near Windſor, the latter end of laſt ſummer, by ſome workmen, who brought it to Mr. Lee, nurſery-gardener at Hammerſmith, from whom I received it. One of the bees hatched, and crawled from his caſe, under my eye, on Whitſunday laſt; and, by an empty caſe I ſaw, that was broke open much in the ſame manner, I imagine another had hatched, and flown away a little before. The remainder, I preſume, will not come to life, as I obſerve, that ſome foreign inſect has made its way into ſome of the caſes; and others may have been chilled in the winter, by the fracture of the wood, in which they were incloſed. I have

deſtroyed ſome of the caſes, in examining them; but there are enough left in their original ſituation, to ſhew how they are contrived and diſpoſed.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt obedient

humble ſervant,

F. H. Eyles Styles.

LXXV. *An Account of a Caſe of a luxated Thigh Bone reduced*; *by Mr.* Charles Young, *Surgeon, at* Plymouth: *Communicated by* John Huxham, *M. D. F. R. S.*

Read June 12, 1760.

AS John Down, a middle ſized man, aged about forty, was, on the 21ſt Auguſt 1759, harneſſing his maſter's horſes, they ſuddenly took fright, and ran away with the chaiſe. He had his back towards the chaiſe, the wheel of which, as it rolled very ſwiftly along, ſtruck him on the upper and hinder part of the right thigh. He fell to the ground, and was unable to riſe again, and complained immediately of a violent pain in his right hip. I came to him ſoon after the accident, and cauſed him to be put to bed; when, on examination, I found his only complaint was the violent pain about the articulation of the femur with the iſchium, which was increaſed by any even the leaſt motion of the limb.